The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

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INJUNCTION REFUSED UNION VIEWS UPHELD

Stockton, Cal., June 19.—This city secured much publicity last year because of an attempt of the Merchants' and Manufacturers' association to disrupt the trade union movement, and now it is again in the limelight because of the refusal of the superior court of this county to issue an anti-boycott injunction against the Building Trades Council and the Material Teamsters' union.

In view of last year's events and the antagonistic union sentiment developed at that time, the decision is a remarkable one, and again proves the value of agitation and education by workers in the securement of rights to purchase whom they will.

While the court believes it has the right to issue injunctions even in cases covered by state and city police laws, it makes the interesting ruling that there is no such thing as a "secondary boycott," as the same is absolutely defended and explained by ex-President Taft and non-union associations. The court insists that "the legality of the secondary boycott is vigorously denied by the labor unions, the federal courts and the courts of many of the states of this Union."

The following is the court statement is cited in defense of this opinion, and that court is quoted as follows:

"The courts recognize the substantial distinction between the so-called primary and secondary boycott."

The superior court intimates that intimidation is a matter for conjunction relief only in the absence of sufficient police statutes and trial by jury guarantees. The court, however, makes several significant statements that accord with the federal Clayton law. The most prominent is the declaration that peaceful persuasive cannot be wrong and that whatever one man can do alone, he may do in combination with others, "because," says Judge Norton, "it has been definitely settled as a matter of law that the act which an individual may lawfully do, an organization of individuals may lawfully do."

The decision indicates the changed sentiments on this question, and shows that in the not very near future organized workers will no longer be attacked for exercising rights that are accorded others without question—the right to withhold their patronage, singly or in concert, from those who oppose them.

AMEND COMPENSATION ACT.

Boston, June 19.—The recent state legislature amended the employer's liability compensation act so as to allow an increase of 20 per cent.

In the case of an injury to a minor his future wage increases may be considered in determining damages. Allowing suit to be brought at common law when death results from the negligence of the employer and is preceded by conscious suffering. Providing for payments for the support of widows during the pendency of a bill. Providing for compensation for injuries to workmen employed by the commonwealth and municipalities. Allowing depositions to be taken before a notary state. To secure prompt payment of benefits when a foreign insurance company ceases from any cause, and following the Employes' Insurance association to write other liability insurance, and regulating the admission of new companies to do business under the insurance acts.

IRON MOLDERS STRIKE.

St Paul, Minn., June 19.—The village of Shakopee, near here, is attracting state-wide attention because of an iron workers' strike against the Minnesota Stove company, which has refused to live up to agreements made with former workers. The company discharged the chairman of the grievance committee and forwarded this unique letter to the secretary of defense of its action: "We understand you are getting ready to march; which we will be in competition with us, and we therefore do not see how we can consistently continue you in our employ. We regret losing your services but under the circumstances do not see how we can do otherwise."

The union denied the charge and offered to submit evidence to this effect, but the company answered, "It is discharged and that settles it."

TEXTILE WORKERS WIN.

Philadelphia, Jan. 19.—Textile workers have won two important strikes in this city. At the Bradford mills, several hundred of these workers were involved. Among the concessions secured was the removal of the superintendent who, the union declared, had acted the part of a tyrant for several years, and who was the principal cause of the strike. All strikers have returned to work and a new superintendent has been installed. The strike of carpet weavers at the C. M. Masland & Sons' mills has been settled. The workers have received the 10 per cent wage increase, recognition of the union shop committee in future grievances and a promise that none of the strikers will be discriminated against because of their activity in the strike.

All workers in the members of the United Textile Workers of America, affiliated to the American Federation of Labor.

CHICAGO STRIKE ENDS; CAR MEN TO ARBITRATE

Chicago, June 19.—After an all night conference the strike of 5,000 street car workers has been declared off and the question of wages and the length of time employes must work before they receive the maximum rates will be arbitrated. The strike was most complete and effectively tied up Chicago's transportation system.

The strike was precipitated by the car men's refusal to accept a big-handed plan of settlement the companies favored and which the workers declared was not fair. The officials wrote the company:

"In your communication you state that we can verify the company's figures. You will remember how you refused to have the private books of the company examined in the last arbitration, and more than expose this record of real profits you admitted to the arbitration board the company's financial ability to pay a wage increase."

In answer to the company's statement that questions that cannot be agreed upon "shall be submitted to arbitration in the usual way," the unionists say:

"From the experience we have had with your usual way of settling questions of this kind, either in the state legislature or the city council, we can assure you that we want no repetition, and the usual way you propose will not be accepted."

UNITY IS ONLY HOPE SAY OFFICE WORKERS

New York, June 19.—The Bookkeepers, Stenographers and Accountants union, affiliated to the American Federation of Labor, calls attention to the hundreds of thousands of these workers who would be benefited by trades unionism. The unorganized stenographer is declared to be on a par with the unorganized domestic servant and subject to the whim of the individual employer. The union officers declare:

"Unionism in the office workers' ranks will carry them forward to at least a living wage, decent conditions of work, freedom from the tyranny of the employer, and will regulate the hours of work so that she knows when her day's work is done, and that she may, like any other normal human being, have her spare hours to the improvement of her mind and for recreation.

"The press has for years built up the picture of the light and frivolous stenographer who comes to work armed with a new novel, candy and chewing gum, to type a few letters very languidly and spend the rest of the day powdering her nose and flirting with her employer.

"A stenographer has to write thirty letters a day, in clicking the keys, depressing the shift key, moving the carriage against the spring tension, expends energy at the rate of about 1,200 pounds to a letter, and about thirteen tons a day. The average of the stenographer is glad to forget the keys for a few hours, or that her nimble but tired fingers will not respond to the call for rush work at 5 o'clock, and incidentally her last chance for a well-earned rest if they had pushed eighteen tons during the day in addition to numerous other business details."

WOMEN UNIONISTS ADJURN.

New York, June 19.—Few changes were made in the constitution at the close of the biennial convention of the National Women's Trade Union league, which adjourned here Friday. The next convention will be held in Kansas City, in 1917.

Among the resolutions adopted were the following:

Approving the fearless course of Frank Walsh, chairman of the commission on industrial relations, condemning the arrest and conviction of John Lawson, Colorado miner, and condemning the arrest of members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union. Indorsing the minimum wage for women, the eight-hour day and the abolition of night work. Favoring the extension of the public works for the private and public employes of women, a national system of unemployment insurance, and the establishment of state, county, state and municipal employment agencies.

For the purpose of extending the knowledge of trade union principles, the convention made these suggestions. Hold frequent shop meetings in union and non-union shops. Distribute pamphlets that show the advantages of trades unionism, and interest meetings wherever possible.

The convention indorsed equal suffrage and called upon the women workers in the states of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Massachusetts to support pending equal suffrage proposals.

PENSION STATE EMPLOYES.

Harrisburg, Pa., June 19.—Governor Brumbaugh has signed a bill establishing a retirement system for attaches of departments of the state government.

It is to become effective January 1, and will affect all except those whose retirement is provided for. Any employe who shall have served twenty-five years or more or who shall have reached the age of 70 years, after having served ten or twenty years as an attache of the state government is to be eligible to retirement on half pay. The governor is to be the authority to determine retirements and attaches must hold themselves in readiness to respond to call for their services. Attaches must make application for retirement, and no additional compensation shall be allowed to those retired for the performance of any duties they may be asked to do.

STEREOTYPERS MEET.

Washington, June 19.—The convention of the International Stereotypers and Electrotypers' union has been in session in this city all week. Preliminary reports show progress in every department of the organization. President Gomper addressed the convention at its opening session and referred to the Clayton law and its declaration that "the labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce" as an indication of the power to correct humanitarian sentiment. Presidents Scott, of the International Typographical union, and Smith, of the Machinists' union, also addressed the convention. Secretary Morrison, of the A. F. of L. delivered an address at the banquet given by the local Stereotypers' union in honor of their visiting craftsmen.

ROCKEFELLER IS GENEROUS.

New York, June 19.—Colorado miners who have been victimized by company checkweighmen will be interested in the announcement that the general education board, a Rockefeller institution, has appropriated $236,650 for educational purposes. The statement issued by the general board, a Rockefeller institution, has appropriated $236,650 for educational purposes. The statement issued by the general board, a Rockefeller institution, has appropriated $236,650 for educational purposes. The statement issued by the general Stereotypers' union in honor of their visiting craftsmen.

WANT JUDGES APPOINTED.

Albany, N. Y., June 19.—Former President Taft maintained his position of opposition to the people's rule before the judiciary committee of the constitutional convention, which was urged to favor the appointment of judges, instead of electing them. Mr. Taft believes this will "remove judges from politics." He is in sympathy with primary elections, either.

LAUNDRY WORKERS STRIKE.

Richmond, Ind., June 19.—Laundry workers were forced on strike because employers refused to accept a wage scale, carrying increases of from $1 to $3 a week. One employer does not believe the demands are unreasonable, and he has signed the contract.

REGULATE PRIVATE AGENCIES.

Harrisburg, Pa., June 19.—The bill to regulate employment agencies through the department of labor and industry has been signed by Governor Brumbaugh. Manhood licensing these agencies are also provided for.

"SPEEDING UP" SYSTEMS PRODUCE INSANITY

Washington, June 19.—"Speeding up" systems are sufficient to upset the mind of an ordinary individual and produce insanity.

This is what the solicitor of the United States department of labor thinks of the stop watch method of production.

The department has sustained this view, which is included in an opinion by its legal adviser that a worker injured because of a strain from working under the speeding up system is entitled to relief under the federal workmen's compensation act.

The decision was made in the case of D. C. Manning, sailmaker at the Mare Island navy yard, California, who worked for many years without losing a day from illness. A time card system was introduced, and in his plea for compensation, Manning brought out these points:

Under the time card system you had to give an account of every minute you were on a job, and we were given to understand that the men who did the most work, would hold their jobs the longest. Later the Halsey system was introduced. Under this plan a time man, equipped with tablet, lead pencil and stop watch, sat in front of the worker to find out how long it takes to do a certain piece of work. The report to headquarters was your future standard for that class of work.

"The Halsey system is designed to get out of the man employed under it the greatest possible amount of work he can do in a given time, with the fear ever hanging over his head that a failure to keep up to the standard will cause him to lose his job."

Manning was engaged in making coaling bags, which are 42 inches long and eight feet in circumference. This is the kind of work he did:

Between the physical strength necessary in this work and the mental strain caused by every move being "tabbed," Manning collapsed, and asked for relief under the compensation act because of "a strain from rushing work under the Halsey system." Physicians reported that he would be disabled for life and that he was "suffering from incurable heart condition."

The attending physician reported that Manning was "an unusually vigorous man, as well as an energetic workman."

In indorsing the statement of claimant that he was entitled to compensation, the solicitor of the department of labor declared that "a man employed as Manning was enough to produce insanity. The official said:

"Here was a strong, hearty, hard working employe who, for about twenty years, had been regularly employed by the government, and whose rating was first class. After putting in all those years of service and retaining his health, strength and vigor, a new system was installed in the government establishment by which the employe was kept under the highest nerve racking tension by reason of the fact that a man sat watching his every movement during every minute of an eight-hour day. In addition to this it will be observed from claimant's letter, above quoted, that the work he was performing was one of the heaviest and hardest kind to be performed in his occupation. Under such circumstances it is not a matter of surprise that his health should be injured and shattered, for it certainly would require a man trained and hardened in heavy manual labor, necessitating also the use of the intellect, would be sufficient to upset the mind of an ordinary individual of average intelligence."

The ruling of the department of labor is in line with the views of the last Congress, which passed the Dietrick bill, outlawing all forms of "speeding up" in the government arsenals and navy yards. Failure of this bill was the result of a long campaign by organized labor. Opponents of the bill insisted that these "speeding up" systems really benefited the employe, who was thereby paid "according to his worth."

WOMEN IN IRON INDUSTRIES

New York, June 19.—The Sun makes editorial comment on the statement of J. G. Butler, jr., president of the Republican state committee, that the war would not be surprising to find thousands of women in mills, blast furnace, and other places where men before the war is over."

The Sun is not startled at the suggestion, for on this Isabelline innocence it asks this question:

"Are the work which they might be called on to do in the mills, mines and blast furnaces really harder than the back breaking occupation of fine scrubbing, which is cheerfully permitted to them, or more trying than the farm labor by thousands of women perform year in and year out?"

Despite this cleverly worded defense of women in the industrial infernos, the editor is awake to the power of labor unions in the political arena, for he warns advocates of the plan.

"These statutes (regulating women workers) must be kept entirely, and their repeal would necessitate a campaign highly expensive and exhausting to the suffragists, presumably assuming the existence of economic conditions which Mr. Butler believes is to ensue."

These conditions, which the editor believes will be unpronounceable, are to him this conclusion:

"A feminine excursion into the mines and blast furnaces is as improbable as it would be undesirable."

The value of the editor's statement, which the Sun is undoubtedly conscious of, is to weaken further agitation for immigration restriction. "Women in mines" will be the bugaboo to offset the workers' plea to the great Congress that its living standard and education be tests for American citizenship.

COKE INDUSTRY DANGEROUS.

Washington, June 19.—In a pamphlet to be issued by the federal bureau of mines it will be shown that coke oven accidents in this country in the year 1913 killed 78 men killed, 644 seriously injured. The fatalities and injuries increased to 1.89, in 1913, and 2.62 in 1914. The hazard of this industry compares favorably with the quarry industry, but the coke ovens works of metal mines in the United States, and the fatality rate is higher than in many bituminous coal mines.

Figures show that 37 per cent of the fatalities resulted from explosions, and 31 per cent was due to coke drawing machines. It is stated that since 37 per cent of the fatalities are due to haulage systems, there appears to be an excellent field for accidents reduction in this department of the industry.

MACHINISTS SIGN AGREEMENT.

Worcester, Mass., June 19.—The O. & J. Machine company has signed an agreement with the Machinists' union, whose secretary shall supply other machinists when needed by the company. If no member of the union is available, employed non-unionists must join the organization within ten days. Fifty-four hours shall constitute a week's work and the minimum rate shall be 20 cents an hour. Time and one-half shall be paid for overtime until midnight. The company agrees that at any time it is unable to do all its work only union employing members of the union will receive this extra work.

PENSIONS FOR LABORERS.

Boston, June 19.—Governor Walsh has signed the bill which provides for pensions for laborers employed by Massachusetts municipalities. The act is optional with cities and towns, and applies to those workers who have reached the age of 65 years and who have been in service not less than 25 years. The act shall be put into effect in the cities and towns at the next state election. Boston may retire laborers on pension at the end of twenty months' injury and who have been employed not less than fifteen years.

BIG LOCOMOTIVE ORDER.

Philadelphia, June 19.—Officials of the Baldwin locomotive works have confirmed the statement that this concern has received an order for 250 locomotives from the Russian government. This is the largest order ever received by an American locomotive works. The order involves $5,000,000, and amounts to nearly one-half of the business done by the Baldwin company last year.

BREWERS HIRE SLUGGERS!

Wilmington, Del., June 19.—Trade unionists charge that sluggers are employed by the brewery companies to intimidate pickets. The brewery workers have been on strike several weeks, rather than accept the non-union shop.

UNIONISTS CAN BE TRUSTED

San Francisco, June 19.—In his report to the Labor Council on work done at the state capitol while the legislature was in session, Legislative Agent Brunton expressed his faith in the A. F. of L. political policy and in the integrity of unionists elected to office. The legislative agent made this recommendation:

"That organized labor seek to elect men to office who carry union cards, and the foregoing biographical sketches amply indicate that they will vote right without being pledged beforehand or threatened after election."

The legislative agent made this reference to changed conditions in the sense of organized labor's constant agitation:

"It must be a source of satisfaction to feel that at the portals where we were once unwelcome, we are now solicited as to our wants. Gentlemen, I understand, in this council, who remember the time when labor's representatives had to go before the legislature to plead labor's cause under the fir and pine trees of the capitol grounds, but now no door is closed to labor's request, nor deaf ear turned."

Brunton also referred to the nonpartisan bill (which removes party emblems from election ballots) "was the most important bill introduced at this session," and he "considered it my duty," he reports, "to call attention to the fact that every assemblyman and every senator (with one exception) who was most bitter and violent against labor, opposed that bill, because they felt that if parties were divided the labor organizations would be the only ones to reap the benefit, and thereby become too strong."

OPPOSE DANGEROUS LAW.

Phoenix, Ariz., June 19.—Trade unionists and the railroad brotherhoods are receiving assistance from citizens in all walks of life in the fight to repeal, by referendum, the law enacted by the last legislature which provides that all cases in trial cases, including jury costs, shall be first deposited with the clerk of the court.

In opposing the bill, Judge Shamhart says:

"Why not require those who seek legislation from the legislature to pay for it? It is but a co-ordinate branch of the government with the governor, for executing the laws."

"We have even abolished the fee system in the state to secure absolute impartiality of the officers. Why then apply it to jurors?"

IOWA UNIONISTS CONFER.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, June 19.—The Iowa state federation of labor convention passed a resolution asking that the next legislature improve the compensation law, which, it is said, yet ignores the underlying principles of compensation legislation. Unionists say they were formerly victims of the employers' liability statutes and that they must fight the liability insurance companies.

President Strief and Secretary-Treasurer Canfield were re-elected. C. F. Henson of this city was chosen delegate to the A. F. of L. convention in San Francisco, and Marshalltown was selected as the next convention city.

CHEMICAL EMPLOYES STRIKE.

Tiltonville, Ohio, June 19.—Unskilled workers at the chemical plant struck for wage increases, recognition of their newly formed union and a demand that intolerable working conditions be improved. The wages of these workers have ranged from $1.60 to $2 a day. Organized miners and other trade unionists are assisting the strikers.

TRY IT ON JOHN D.

Wheeling, W. Va., June 19.—Editor Hilton, of the Wheeling Majority, asks this question:

"If John Doe person is to be imprisoned for the death of a strike breaker whom he never saw or knew, why shall the murderer of Lodlow get off with a sentence of burning alive the women and children of the Lodlow tent colony?"

PLUMBERS RETURN TO WORK.

Little Rock, Ark., June 19.—Plumbers in this city have adjusted differences with their employers and have returned to work. The unionists announce that working conditions have been improved.

CLOSE ON WEDNESDAYS.

Niles, O., June 19.—Retail merchants have signed an agreement to close their stores on Wednesday afternoons during the months of June, July and August.

LAWSON CASE IS DISCUSSED

San Francisco, June 19.—The Evening Bulletin makes this comment on the Lawson verdict:

"Grand Hillyer, judge of the specially-created court which tried Lawson, went to the bench directly from the office of counsel for the mining and the coal companies. As a coal company attorney he had helped to manufacture much of the testimony of the indicted miners. The jury which he allowed to serve in the Lawson case consisted of 'coal company retainers' hand-picked by a coal company sheriff."

"No one said that Lawson killed anybody. He was charged with murder because, as the head of the miners' union and because, in a clash between the miners and the mine guards, the latter, after eight men had been killed by a bullet from some unidentified gun in the hands of the mine owners, had been in control of the legal machinery of Las Animas county, in the hands of the coal companies, or even the Rockefellers, might have been indicted and the case would have gone to the jury.

"Eleven members of the Lawson jury wanted him hanged. He was let off with life imprisonment because one juryman gagged at the death penalty."

The Bulletin declares Governor Lawson and those of his companions who are most unpopular with the coal companies are entitled to a fair trial and lives in prison. The influence of this raw capitalistic anarchy in sweetening raw relationships in the most favored country over may be left to the imagination."

COMPENSATION NOT LIMITED.

Hartford, Conn., June 19.—The supreme court of this state has ruled that the jurisdiction of the compensation commissioner act is not limited to Connecticut, even when the contract between employer and employe is entered into within the state. The ruling was in the case of the wives of two employes of the Thames Towboat company who had their lives when a tug foundered off the New Jersey coast. The company appealed from the compensation commission's awards, claiming that as the accident happened outside the state the compensation act has no jurisdiction. The supreme court ruled that under the conditions the law is effective.

WANT WAGE LAW ENFORCED.

Detroit, June 19.—In the suit started by the Detroit federation of labor to compel the enforcement of the state's minimum wage law approved at the last city charter election, trade unionists declare that the purpose is to compare the workings of wage-by-law with methods employed by their labor organizations.

By the largest majority ever given a city charter amendment, the people approved a minimum wage and an eight-hour day for municipal laborers. City officials have refused to obey the mandate and the city attorney presents the strange spectacle of defending this violation in a suit started by the unionists, who have secured counsel and are now asking the courts to compel the authorities to obey the law.

ADOPT "STATE USE" SYSTEM.

Harrisburg, Pa., June 19.—One of the reform prison measures passed by the last legislature, and just signed by the governor, introduces the so-called "state use" system in this state. The system has that prisoners shall be given an opportunity to manufacture goods for use in the state institutions. It believed this will eventually result in the abolishment of convict labor in competition with free labor.

IMMIGRATION WILL INCREASE.

San Francisco, June 19.—Increased immigration to this country will follow the lifting of the quarantine against bubonic plague, according to Massachusetts Health Commissioner McLaughlin, who declared at the recent Association of Boards for the American society of tropical medicine.

TO CHECK STRIKEBREAKERS.

Boston, June 19.—The state legislature passed a law empowering the state board of conciliation and arbitration to investigate charges of alleged illegal employment by strikebreakers.

CARPENTERS RAISE WAGES.

Wheeling, W. Va., June 19.—Practically the entire building trade, including 45 cents an hour, the new wage rate of the Carpenters' union. The old rate was 40 cents.

GARMENT WORKERS UNITE.

Knoxville, Tenn., June 19.—A local union of United Garment Workers has been organized in this city. One large manufacturer of shirts and overalls has signed the agreement.

WIN INJUNCTION SUIT STRIKERS MAY PICKET

Washington, June 19.—Justice McCoy of the Supreme court of the District of Columbia has refused to issue an injunction against striking brewery workers from picketing.

The court ruled that "the proof preponderates in favor of the finding that the picketing is entirely peaceful."

The court said it has been repeatedly held that unionists may peacefully advise the public not to purchase nonunion products. This, together with an absence of threats by the brewery workers, led the justice to this conclusion.

"The defendants, then, having the right to curtail the sale of nonunion beer or to increase the sale of union beer by giving information to others, there is nothing in the present case which warrants them from doing so."

Attorney Ralston called attention to the Clayton law, and summarized the position of the workers as follows:

"These workers have said to the community at large: 'If you will aid us, by discontinuing the purchase and consumption of that beer, we will the sooner be able to gain the benefits which we expect to arise from our organization.' That is what they have said. And what is the answer? Practically, whether we say that to the employer against whom this strike takes place, or whether they solicit some one else to do that very same thing? Essentially I say there is no difference between them. They are acts which tend to do that which is lawful and collectively and they are done for ends which are justifiable, which are legal."

The strike started April 2. It involves brewery workers, engineers, firemen and machinists. The workers asked that former contracts be renewed, with the added demand that the week be equalized in times of business depression. Last November the companies discharged fifty-one men, made necessary by the proviso was intended to check this unfairness. Later the companies declared that the engineers withdrew from the Steam Engineers' union. The strikers have presented their cause to the public in a temperate manner and are confident of final victory. The failure of the conventions to arrive at settlement is but one of a long series of attempts to destroy the unions of brewery workers and their allies.

MAINE UNIONISTS ADVANCE.

Augusta, Me., June 19.—In his report to the Maine federation of labor convention, Secretary Donnelly called attention to the fact that labor laws of the state statute books when the first annual convention was held in this city in 1910, and that many advances have been made, the most important being the labor law, direct primary initiative and referendum, trustee exemption, making it a crime to advertise for men during a strike or on without stating the fact, workmen's compensation act, and provisions regarding the employment of labor.

The 54-hour law, passed by the last Legislature, has been referred to the referendum, if present plans of hostile employers are successful. The convention declared that the purpose of this move is to delay enforcement of the new law just as long as possible.

In an address on the evils of tuberculosis, Secretary Israel of the Maine Anti-Tuberculosis association declared:

"We think war is awful, but all the wars of history cannot show a death list equal to tuberculosis." The speaker said that Maine's loss in the Civil war were much less than the deaths by tuberculosis.

HAVE SUFFICIENT SIGNATURES

Olympia, Wash., June 19.—Seven measures passed by the 1915 legislature will be put before the voters of the state at the general election. Operation of these laws has been suspended until the next general election because of the filing of petitions by the joint legislative committees of the state federation of labor, the Grange and the Farmers' union, and state grange. The petitions bear 53,140 names as against 52,347. Only 19,161 names are necessary in each case.

The laws that are opposed would weaken the initiative and referendum act by compelling, among other things, the signing of petitions at the place of registration, and requiring signers of recall petitions to go to their place of registration. The anti-picketing law is vigorously opposed by the organizations, as it would practically prohibit any announcement of disputes with employers.

CONSOLIDATE PENN. PRISONS.

Harrisburg, Pa., June 19.—Governor Brumbaugh has signed the bill consolidating Pennsylvania penitentiaries and providing for a new penitentiary now being built in Center county, where state forestry lands were set aside for its use and additional properties purchased so that inmates may do farm work and help the institution to become self-supporting. The new site comprises 1,752 acres, of which 3,000 acres are tillable.

AMEND COMPENSATION LAW.

Hartford, Conn., June 19.—The recent state legislature amended the workmen's compensation law by reducing the waiting period from 14 to 10 days and providing that benefits for an injured employe will receive medical attention during the entire time of his disability instead of only 90 days, as formerly. For partial incapacity the injured employe shall receive two-thirds of his wages, but in no case shall it be less than $5 weekly.

CARPENTERS STRIKE.

Allentown, Pa., June 19.—Carpenters struck to enforce the new wage scale of 45 cents an hour. Most employers have accepted the new rate, which compares with other cities in this vicinity as follows: Easton, 40 cents; Phillipsburg, N. J., 40 cents; Reading, 40 cents; Bethlehem, 35 cents and Wilkes-Barre, 45 cents.

LABOR TEMPLE FOR DALLAS.

Dallas, Tex., June 19.—The Labor Temple association has awarded the contract for the erection of a $50,000 temple. The structure will be a modern three-story reinforced building. It is hoped to dedicate the building next Labor day, when Governor Ferguson has promised to be present.

ORGANIZE LAUNDRY WORKERS.

Little Rock, Ark., June 19.—Laundry workers in this city are conducting a successful organizing campaign. One of the largest laundries in the state has been completely unionized, and the list is rapidly increasing.

"BREAKING CONTRACTS CAN'T CRUSH UNIONS"

—PRESIDENT GOMPERS.

New York, June 19.—"You can't destroy unions by breaking agreements. We favor contracts, but we do not depend on them to live," declared President Gompers last week to an audience composed of thousands of members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union. It was one of the greatest labor demonstrations this city ever witnessed, and Madison Square Garden was crowded with unionists who listened to vigorous addresses by President Gompers and others on the termination of the procotol by garment manufacturers and the arrest of several leaders of the union, which was denounced as "a deliberate assault on our union in particular and on the labor movement in general—an assault engineered by some of our most oppressive and unscrupulous employers, in accord with a band of professional strikebreakers and a gang of notorious and self-confessed criminals."

President Gompers notified manufacturers that the union's activity would not be lessened because they broke an agreement. He said the trade union movement derives its power from contracts, but it does not depend upon them for existence, and that it will be more and prosper in spite of broken promises by employers.

"I don't know the reason behind the breaking of the procotol," said President Gompers. "Is it that the manufacturers have decided that the union must be crushed? Did they join in the movement to crush the union or the activities of the cloak makers' union? If it be their purpose to help take the lives away liberties from the men who believe to be innocent, they will be defeated. The killing of the men at Ludlow began a movement that will be what they want to do here.

"In the fight for freedom we are going to stand shoulder to shoulder, not for war, but for peace. Any assault on our ranks or on the movement among us, will find our ranks ready to fight to maintain the lives of the workers in a manner and no compromise.

Strong resolutions were adopted protesting against the action of employers, indorsing the union and pledged their trade union faith in the following language:

"We realize more than ever that our only protection against all assaults on the part of our employers and our other enemies lies in our organization; that our union alone will shield us from the inhuman exploitation, maltreatment and persecution to which we had been subjected before the general strike of 1910, and we pledge ourselves with renewed determination to maintain our union and stand fully and unflinchingly by our union, by our international and by our faithful officers through all the struggles that may come."

DEFENDS LAWSON JUDGE.

Fort Collins, Col., June 19.—Governor Carlson is fearful that he will be assassinated, and he has proclaimed citizens of this state because of his apprehensions. He has denounced the judge of the specially created Trinidad judicial district. Judge Hillyer presided at the Lawson trial at Trinidad and one of his first judicial acts was the sentencing of John Lawson to imprisonment for life.

In an effort to turn the tide of protest against the Lawson verdict, Governor Carlson is "stumping" the state. In a speech in this city he denounced John Lawson and declared that Judge Hillyer and declared that "having failed to overthrow the military arm of the government, the unionists will now seek to disrupt Colorado that way are now trying to overthrow the judiciary department."

These sentiments carry little weight with the people of this state, who can not overlook the conditions surrounding Judge Hillyer's appointment.

STAND BEHIND WALSH.

New York, June 19.—The old policy of "stand pat" is not dead. Those who disagree with it, is beginning to lose its effectiveness. Resolutions indorsing the meeting of the Central Federated Union when resolutions indorsing Chairman Walsh, the commission on industrial relations were unanimously approved and a copy ordered forwarded to President Wilson.

Delegates voiced these sentiments: "The work of Chairman Walsh and the commission has never been equalled in the history of this country. Never there been such a thorough investigation of the troubles between capital and labor."

"The effort to either remove or discredit Walsh is for the purpose of smokescreening the real issue, sign, as his cross-examination of Rockefeller, jr., indicates, and a strong ground will be taken in reference to Colorado affairs and related subjects."

MAILERS WAGE WAGES.

Cincinnati, June 19.—Members of the mailers' union will alert in various industrial conditions. Several months ago they agreed to a seven months' renewal of their contract with the publishers and managers on the theory that business would improve.

The mailers presented a demand for betterments the first of June. This was granted and that a flat increase of $1.50 a week was signed by both parties.

TO ANNUL TREATIES HIT BY SEAMEN'S LAW

Washington, June 19.—The higher labor standards of the La Follette seamen's bill, passed by the last Congress, will result in numerous treaties, and the government has instructed its representatives to bring about the annulment of those paragraphs in commercial treaties which conflict with the new law.

As the section of the law that applies to foreign vessels will not become effective until July, 1916, there is sufficient time for diplomatic negotiations. Many of the ships which visit American waters conflicted with labor rights under treaties. Unionists pointed to these statements as proof that the law would raise the standard of seamen throughout the world, and that the various countries would have to revise their treaties if the law was passed.

HORSESHOERS TO ORGANIZE.

Worcester, Mass., June 19.—Horseshoers' union will inaugurate an organizing campaign, in this city.